

most daily insulted by prurient and low-lived inquisitors; with threats of entire deprivation of the common liberties of citizens; with prospects of the utter destruction of their political independence, and all on account of religious principles and practices which do no one an injury, the term Independence Day, which is flaunted before their eyes and shouted in their ears, partakes very much of the nature of a burlesque, with a side to it that is shadowed in sorrow and darkened with curtains of mourning.

Alas for the great republic! If a change does not come in the drift to the tide of its affairs, and a return is not made to the basic principles to perpetuate which the Constitution was prepared and adopted, it will not be long before Independence Day will be a thing of the past. Let the course pursued toward the "Mormons" be continued, and the precedent thus established be turned upon other offending religious bodies, and where will be the boasted liberties of this proud land?

We are thankful for the triumph of the New World over the tyranny of the Old. We echo the shouts of freemen over the principles bequeathed by patriot sires. But while the Stars and Stripes float gaily on high, and the sound of festivities to commemorate old times are heard from sea to sea, there is a sense of sadness in our souls when we look toward the future of the nation, and the flag is at half-mast in our hearts in mourning for Utah over freedom departed. God grant that a change may come, and the people of these mountains may soon be able to celebrate a genuine Independence Day!

A PARK CITY "LUMINARY."

The Park City Record often contains absurd ravings against the majority of the people of Utah, but as its influence and circulation are practically insignificant, it is permitted to air itself in imitation of ranker journalistic weeds of larger growth, and flap itself in the mountain wind, unnoticed. In a recent issue it makes an assertion, in its customary spirit of reckless and ignorant mendacity, which we pay a little attention to, lest a few individuals of the desperate class may be led by its errors into the commission of flagrant crime, under the false impression that the laws of Utah furnish no penalty for it.

It appears that a half drunken miner named John Angove assaulted an invalid and bed-ridden lady, fifty years of age, during her husband's temporary absence; but the lady raised such an outcry that he decamped without effecting his evil purpose. Then the husband, W. C. Gregg, returned and was informed of the outrage he gave information to the police, having been deterred by his wife from summary vengeance. The fellow was arrested on the charge of assault with intent to do bodily harm and placed under bonds of \$1,000.

The Record explains this mild charge by the wonderful information that there is "no law in this Territory punishing the awful crime of rape," and that "the absence of such a law, as is well known, is due to the shameful misdoings of the Mormon Legislature."

If the writer of that rubbish will call upon anybody in Park City who possesses a copy of the Compiled Laws of Utah, and turn to page 595 and 596 he will see what a donkey he has made of himself in trying to explain something he knows nothing about. He will find that the punishment provided for the awful crime is imprisonment for not less than five years. Also by looking at page 590 he will find that an attempt to commit the crime is punishable by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than ten years.

We do not expect that he will have manhood enough to acknowledge his error, or apologize for his senseless attack upon the "Mormon Legislature." But this notice will suffice to let the few people who may have been deceived on this point by the Record, understand the facts in the case and learn what a legal light twinkles in the upper atmosphere of the Park.

The Chinese Six Companies, whose wholesale importations of Chinese into California started the anti-Chinese agitation on the Pacific slope, have in contemplation a great South American colony of Chinese. The Six Companies propose to buy a large territory of cheap land in Peru and Chili, where the climate is agreeable to Chinese and the soil highly productive of their home staples, and in this way they hope to relieve the dense population of China without the trouble which threatens further operations on the Pacific Coast of this country.

After a life spent in politics and the dry goods business, Charles Farwell, of Chicago, has at last dropped out of both. He declares that he has no further political ambition than to be a good citizen, vote for the candidates of his party, and contribute what he can to the nomination of the best men for all positions of public trust. Farwell commenced his career in the office of the clerk of Cook County at a salary of \$8 per month. He was subsequently elected county clerk, has been several times a member of Congress, and has frequently been mentioned as a candidate for Governor of the State, the United States Senate and the Mayoralty of Chicago.

THE OLD FOLKS' EXCURSION AT AMERICAN FORK.

THE VETERANS HAVE A HIGH TIME.

At an early hour yesterday morning the streets of Salt Lake City presented unusual activity and bustle. Vehicles of all descriptions, filled with people, were seen weaving their way from every part toward the Utah Central Depot, and the street cars were also loaded with precious human freight, going in the same direction. To the strangers "within our gates," who are not acquainted with the "Mormon" way of honoring old age, this was a surprise, and when they were informed that this was the day for the annual excursion of the old folks of Salt Lake City, none but the most perverted minds could help being in sincere sympathy with the movement. The scene at the depot was a most interesting one. A long train, headed by two locomotives, tastefully decorated for the occasion, followed by sixteen passenger cars, were in readiness to receive the veterans of all creeds, nationalities and colors, without distinction.

The members of the committee, with their aids were in full activity to unload vehicles, and get everybody comfortably seated in the commodious railroad coaches, while the Sunday School Union Band was discoursing some of its sweet music to cheer the hearts of the aged.

About 8:15 a. m. the long train moved slowly out from the depot, and after receiving passengers at all the intermediate stations and stopping places, it arrived safely at American Fork depot at 10:30. After passing the point of the mountain it was found, by counting, that there were 775 persons on board, including aged and young, train men and committee members. It was estimated that nearly 600 of these were over seventy years of age.

The grounds around the American Fork depot showed that the good citizens of that berg were prepared for their task and determined to be equal to the emergency. About 150 vehicles, mostly from American Fork, but also representing Pleasant Grove, Lehi and Alpine, were in readiness to convey the visitors to the Cottonwood Grove, some four or five blocks distant. Under the able direction of the marshal of the day (Geo. H. Robinson) with his aids (Chas. H. Roberts and John R. Hindley and Nells Christensen) and a great number of assistants, the transfer was made in about three-quarters of an hour. In the grove, which belongs to Mr. Chipman, and is situated immediately north of the D. & R. G. W. railway track, between that and the settlement a temporary stand and bowery had been erected under the protecting branches of a clump of cottonwoods, and the grounds were also well provided with seats. Four long tables were set, and the good ladies of American Fork made it their special duty to provide their honored guests with the good things of life in the shape of edibles—something that was unlooked for, as everybody had been advised to provide themselves with lunch. As it was, many a one allowed their lunch baskets to remain unopened in order to share the hospitality of these kind-hearted citizens.

A couple of hours, or more, were spent in partaking of refreshments, conversing, etc., and about 1 p. m. the assembly was called to order by C. R. Savage. On the stand were seated, besides the committee and aids, Superintendent John Sharp, Bishop Wm. M. Bromley, of American Fork, Sisters Eliza R. Suow Smith, Emmeline B. Wells, Wm. Foster's "Old Folks' Choir" and others. A number of Bishops and other leading men were also present, besides Sisters Zina D. H. Young, Prescinda L. Kimball and other distinguished ladies.

The services were commenced by the singing of "Come, come, ye Saints, no toil nor labor fear" by the choir, followed by a short prayer by Geo. Goddard. Then followed music from the band. After which Bishop Bromley made a short address of welcome, followed by George Goddard, who in his usual happy way, entertained the assembly a few minutes.

The distribution of prizes was then inaugurated, and the first one awarded was an arm chair to Wm. Julian, of American Fork, aged 91, after which presents were distributed to all the aged people of that town, namely 11 over 80 years of age, and 26 between the ages of 70 and 80. Mary and Margaret Tipping, who—although under the three score and ten—were also remembered for their hospitality towards the first "Mormon" missionaries (Elders Heber C. Kimball, Orson Hyde and Willard Richards) in Preston, England, in 1837. Next followed a prize to the handsomest old man on the grounds. A Centennial watch, a present from Carl C. Asmussen, was awarded Wm. Grant, leader of the American Fork brass band, who on former occasions had taken great interest in the old folks, but who now was confined in the Utah penitentiary for conscience' sake. Ellen D. Clark, who waited on an old, sick and bedridden lady, (Agnes Crooks, of American Fork), was awarded a beautiful clock, a gift from O. L. Eliason, of Salt Lake City. Two handsome gold medals, the special gifts of E. J. Swanner & Co., were awarded to the oldest gentleman and lady on the ground. The happy recipients of these valuable and appropriate gifts were Mary Bishop, of the Tenth Ward, Salt Lake City, nearly 100 years old, and James Burgon, of Union, Salt Lake County, nearly 93 years of

age. Mary Bishop felt so happy over this unexpected honor that when the band, later in the day, struck up the air of "Bonnie Dundee," she gave a tip-toe performance and danced as gracefully as if her years had been only one-fourth of what they actually are. This lady was born September 4, 1786, in Somersetshire, England, emigrated to Utah in 1873, having joined the Church some ten years before. Her youngest daughter Mary Ann Mills, now 68 years old, accompanied her on the excursion. Father Burgon was born September 18, 1793 at Portsea, Hampshire, England, joined the Church in 1850 and emigrated to Utah in 1880. Before leaving his native country his home was always open to the missionaries, toward whom he showed great hospitality.

Geo. Goddard sang "Who is on the Lord's side," after which prizes were distributed to the oldest gentlemen and ladies from Lehi, Pleasant Grove, Alpine, Provo, Springville, Spanish Fork, etc. Among these aged ones were Euenf—, of Lehi, who, on invitation, sang a French song, the Church veterans Zebedee Coltrin, of Spanish Fork, and Lucius N. Scovill, of Springville, and others. For waiting on her blind grand mother, Mary Snyder of South Cottonwood was awarded a trunk, and Mary Ann Clark, of American Fork, who had walked all the way from Iowa City to Salt Lake Valley, pulling a hand-cart, received a satchel. John Lyon, of Snyderville, Summit County, who had played the flute for the Prophet Joseph Smith was also awarded a prize, and the oldest poet present (John Lyon) received \$2.00. The oldest bachelor present, 84 years of age, and also the oldest maid received proper presents to gladden their lonely hearts, and last of all, a few of the pioneers of 1847, who were remembered. The programme was finished with music from the band, singing by the choir and benediction by Zebulon Jacobs.

After the meeting Professor Hagal, of California, gave a free rope and trapeze performance, and about 4 p. m. the teams were again put in activity, hauling the people back to the station.

About 5 p. m. the excursionists were again comfortably seated in the cars, the superintendent's private coach being attached to the rear of the train and the homeward journey was begun, amid the cheering of the people, the waving of handkerchiefs and hats, and an appropriate air from the band, which was stationed in a shady place nearby, as the day was quite hot. On the return as well as on the outward trip in the morning, cakes, candies, lemonade, etc., were distributed among the passengers. The train arrived at the Salt Lake City depot at 7:50 p. m. and a few minutes later all had departed for their respective homes, the conveyances waiting being sufficient to accommodate all.

That the reader may form an idea of the labor performed by the good people of American Fork, we will state that nearly the entire male population of the settlement turned out last Saturday and Monday to prepare the grove, erect stands, construct seats and make smooth the roads leading from the depot to the grove. At the head of the various committees on reception, decoration, grounds, finance, etc., the names of James Gardner, Wm. Hunter, Thomas Barratt, John Tracy, Edward B. Lee and Eliza Hindley appear, and everything was successfully performed under the immediate direction of the indefatigable and industrious Bishop. Near the depot, an arch, through which the vehicles passed, had been erected, on which the appropriate word "Welcome" appeared in large letters, while on the other side the sentence "We honor old age" was inscribed. Near the grove the prepared road led through a gate, over which the motto "God bless the old folks" was written in bold letters. Of all the old folks' excursions heretofore had, we venture to say that this has been the most successful of all, and it no doubt was the largest. It is not very easy to estimate the number of people on the grounds, but it must have ranged between three and four thousand. Throughout the day the greatest peace and harmony prevailed. Not a frown was seen on anybody's face, and not an angry or unpleasant word was heard. The committee and their aids seemed to understand their respective duties thoroughly, and had a kind word for everybody. Everything moved as systematically as if all had been minutely prearranged, which, however, was not the case.

In addition to the committee whose names are already known to the public we wish to mention their lady assistants, who, during the day, labored so assiduously for the comfort of their precious charge: Louise Eddington, Eliza Binder, Emily Clowes, Ella Empey, Elizabeth Kirkman, Annie Naylor, Elizabeth Goddard, May Wells and Fanule Savage, will long be remembered by those to whom they administered yesterday.

The courtesies and liberality of Supt. John Sharp, who upon this and former occasions treated the old folks to a free ride, might serve as a precedent for others in distant parts of our country to emulate. He surely deserves the thanks of all. The train men were all attentive to their unusually large number of passengers, and it was a pleasure to behold the smiling faces of Conductors Zebulon Jacobs and John Acomb and their assistant Joseph M. Cahoon, who considered it to be their special duties to be kind and obliging to all, entirely sacrificing the stiff bearing which generally characterizes railroad conductors in the West. Eng-

neers Peter Tibbs and Wm. S. Horne, with their respective firemen, also deserve special mention for the pains and care with which they ran the train, avoiding all unnecessary jars and shaking of the cars.

The favorite Old Folks' Choir, under the able direction of Wm. Foster, deserves commendation. Both on the outward trip and the return one they went from car to car singing "Sweet By and By," "Auld Lang Syne," and a number of other popular melodies with a spirit and vim that sometimes caused tears to course down the cheeks of the aged men and women of Israel. At the stand they sang "Come, come ye Saints, no toil nor labor fear," and "O ye Mountains high," in a manner that went to the hearts of both young and old. There was meaning conveyed to the mind by these inspired strains, that used to be sung with marvellous effect at the camp fires of weary pilgrims while crossing the plains many years ago. Wm. Foster, E. Beesley, Wm. Willes, John R. Morgan, Albert Smith, Thos. C. Griggs, Mrs. Laura N. Smith, Miss Lizzie Newton, Mrs. Annie Poulton and Miss Ella Beesley were the sweet singers of yesterday.

The band which rendered such excellent service during the day, both at the railroad depot and the grove, consisted of a combination of the American Fork, Lehi and Pleasant Grove bands under their respective leaders, Martin Hansen, Alfred M. Fox and B. N. Walters.

The merchants and business men generally of Salt Lake City, have always exhibited a liberality toward the old folks when invited to contribute to their comfort, but never to such an extent as on this occasion. The members of the committee, who called upon them for the purpose, actually had to refuse receiving several of the gifts offered, as it was considered beyond necessity.

Not so many prizes were distributed this year as formerly, as the committee deemed it proper to reserve a portion of the gifts donated to distribute among those who, unable to go with the excursion, had to remain at home. All such will be remembered hereafter.

The excursion was a grand success, and highly creditable to those who managed and manipulated it.

Z. B. B. S.

AN EXCELLENT INSTITUTION—THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

There was a goodly representation of stockholders at the third annual meeting of Zion's Benefit Building Society, in the City Hall last evening. The meeting was called to order by President T. G. Webber. Bishop James Watson offered prayer, after which the call for the meeting was read by Secretary W. J. Bateman.

The President announced the object of the meeting, and congratulated the stockholders upon the success of the institution, the past year having been the most prosperous one since the organization. After reading the minutes of the last annual meeting, the report of the Secretary was read as follows:

ZION'S BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE THIRD FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 15TH, 1893.

	On Hand.	Withdrawn.	On Hand.
First series...	1,904	196	1,708
Second series...	742	179	568
Third series...	2,304	277	2,027
	4,950	647	4,303

RECEIPTS.	
Cash on hand, last report.....	\$ 75 46
Books and stationery on hand, last report.....	76 60
Entrance fees.....	230 40
Subscriptions.....	27,415 00
Fines.....	115 45
Interest.....	3,452 82
Premiums.....	35 25
Transfers.....	16 75
Repayments on loans.....	1,135 60
	\$32,552 73

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Loans to stockholders.....	\$26,700 00
Discount on advance payments.....	123 80
Withdrawing stockholders.....	4,892 00
Dividends paid withdrawing stockholders.....	230 97
Expenses.....	336 60
Bills payable.....	140 00
Delinquent interest.....	57 85
Delinquent fines.....	32 75
Cash on hand.....	33 76
	\$32,552 73

TOTAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS SINCE ORGANIZATION, JUNE 12TH, 1883.

SHARES OF STOCK.			
	Issued.	Withdrawn.	On Hand.
First series...	2,770	1,062	1,708
Second series	795	227	568
Third series...	2,304	277	2,027
	<hr/> 5,869	<hr/> 1,566	<hr/> 4,303

RECEIPTS.	
Entrance fees.....	\$ 586 90
Subscriptions.....	59,921 00
Fines.....	253 45
Interest.....	5,781 21
Premiums.....	83 93
Transfers.....	40 00
Repayments on loans.....	1,404 00
	\$68,073 46

DISBURSEMENTS.	
Loans to stockholders.....	\$56,225 00
Withdrawing stockholders.....	10,254 50
Dividends paid withdrawing stockholders.....	346 05
Expenses.....	399 75

Discount on advance payments.....	232 80
Delinquent interest.....	57 85
Delinquent fines.....	32 75
Cash on hand.....	33 76
	\$63,073 46

RESOURCES.

Bills receivable.....	\$54,821 00
Delinquent interest.....	57 85
Delinquent fines.....	32 75
Cash on hand.....	33 76
	\$54,945 36

LIABILITIES.

Dues paid on stock.....	\$49,669 50
Profit.....	6,275 86
	\$54,945 36

PROFIT.

Profit.....	\$ 5,275 86
Reserve fund of 10 per cent.....	527 59
Undivided profits.....	27 23
	\$ 5,830 68

Dividend to stockholders.....	\$ 4,721 04
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DIVIDEND.

First series....1,708 shares @ \$2 16	\$3,689 28
Second series.....668 " @ 86	545 28
Third series....2,027 " @ 24	486 48
	\$4,721 04

4,303

DIVIDEND FOR CURRENT YEAR.

First series.....	\$1 20 per share
Second series.....	72 per share
Third series.....	24 per share

VALUE OF STOCK.

First series...	\$20 16 per share.
Second series.....	12 96 per share.
Third series.....	6 24 per share.

W. J. BATEMAN, Secretary.

The auditing committee made the following report on the above:

We, the undersigned, respectfully report that we have examined the statement of the secretary of said society, compared and checked the same with the books kept by him, and are satisfied that said statement is correct.

We have also examined the deeds of trust, notes and insurance policies and find them correct.

JOHN H. RUMEL, JR.,
HEBER M. WELLS,
J. C. CUTLER,
Auditing Committee.

On motion, it was ordered that a sufficient number of the secretary's report be printed for distribution among the members of the society and those intending to become such.

Proposed amendments to the by-laws were then discussed, and the following were adopted: One providing for the payment of \$1 fee when an application for a loan was filed, and \$1 each to reimburse the examining committee and secretary when their special labor in connection with the loan was performed. Another providing that the time for receiving dues was to be fixed at 6 o'clock on the evenings of the 1st of each month, the two succeeding Mondays, and the 15th; if the 1st falls on Sunday, the following Monday is the date of opening the books.

Ten stockholders were appointed as tellers, and the election for officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

President—Thos. G. Webber, 2,741 votes.
Vice-President—Jas. Sharp, 2,741.
Treasurer—L. S. Hills, 2,741.
Assistant Treasurer—James T. Little, 2,731.
Secretary—Wm. J. Bateman, 2,417.
Assistant Secretary—Thos. Hull, 2,425.

DIRECTORS:

Francis Cope, 2,741 A. Parsons, 2,741
W. H. Rowe, 2,696 J. H. Rumel, Jr., 2,735
Jas. Watson, 2,741 J. C. Cutler, 2,741
W. W. Riter, 2,625 George Swan, 2,733
A. W. Carlson, 2,741 J. Nicholson, 2,741
E. A. Smith, 2,741

Auditors—H. M. Wells, 2,741; D. A. Swan, 2,741; J. H. Burrows, 2,425.

A vote of thanks was given to the retiring officers, and to the Mayor for the use of the hall, and the meeting adjourned.

According to a correspondent of the Sioux Falls (Dak.) Argus, a conspiracy exists in South Dakota to overthrow the Territorial government. A State organization has already been formed, its ramifications extending to every town and county, while two army corps of "Statehood" troops have been secretly armed and are drilling. The conspiracy only waits for the people of that end of the Territory to become sufficiently excited on the subject of independent statehood, when this mine will be exploded. According to the correspondent, the Territorial Adjutant-General is aware of the danger, and is putting the National Guard in a condition to meet the threatened rebellion.

The natural difficulties overcome by agriculturists in some of the Pacific Coast regions are illustrated by the following statement of the San Francisco Bulletin: "The Nevada Land and Cattle Company is demonstrating the practicability of storing water for irrigation purposes. It has built a rock dam in a narrow defile of the hills surrounding Squaw Valley, in Elko county, which fills a basin of 2,000 acres to an average depth of thirteen feet, containing about 8,500,000,000 gallons. It has also constructed during this year about twenty-eight miles of irrigating ditches, the main canal having a capacity of about 25,000,000 gallons in twenty-four hours, has a thousand acres of alfalfa growing vigorously, besides grain and vegetables, and is engaged in stock raising on a large scale. The capacity of this reservoir is sufficient to put twelve inches of water annually on about 20,000 acres of land."